

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of )  
Gunnar Hultquist et al. ) Examiner: R. Palabrica  
 ) Art Unit: 3663  
Title: A NUCLEAR FUEL ROD )  
 ) Confirmation No. 5447  
Serial No.: 10/537,954 )  
 )  
Filed: June 8, 2005 ) (Docket No. 1026-  
0002WOUS)

Middletown, Connecticut, August 21, 2008

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. BOX 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT, REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION, AND PETITION  
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

This Amendment with Remarks and Request for Continued Examination is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed April 21, 2008, having a period for response set to expire on July 21, 2008, for which a one-month extension of time is requested. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.